

work with Congress to get them done in an expeditious way.

Q. You don't support arming pilots?

*The President.* Army pilots?

Q. Arming pilots.

*The President.* Oh, arming. As I said, I look forward to any suggestion that—there may be better ways to do it than that, but I'm open for any suggestion. And the good news is, is that there's a willingness on Capitol Hill to work with the administration, and vice versa, to come up with constructive, sound ways to convince the American public it's safe to fly.

Q. How quickly do you think you can put these plans in place?

*The President.* Oh, some of them will be—some of them will take a while; some of them could happen very quickly. Just give me a chance to give my speech. You're trying to jump the gun on me, Stretch [Richard Keil, Bloomberg News]. [*Laughter*]

Q. It's my job, sir.

*The President.* You're doing it well, too, my boy. [*Laughter*]

John, no longer can you say, I haven't answered your questions. [*Laughter*]

Q. One of the three ain't bad. Thank you, sir. [*Laughter*]

*The President.* [*Inaudible*]*—batting .333.* All right.

Q. Thank you.

*The President.* Gordon, good job—no questions. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:40 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Imam Muzammil H. Siddiqi, president, Islamic Society of North America; Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization; and President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He also referred to the Report of the Sharm el-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee, chaired by former Senator George J. Mitchell, issued April 30.

## Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 5762 September 26, 2001

*The kindness of the Lord has not ended,  
His mercies are not spent.*

Lamentations 3:22

Yom Kippur is a day of holy awe—and a day of awesome hope. It is the day, Judaism teaches, on which God judges the world—and the day when humanity rediscovers the power of God's love and forgiveness. The Jewish tradition holds that all humans sin, but that atonement, prayer, and charity can avert God's decree.

This is a year in which we were stunned by humanity's capacity for cruelty and violence. It is a year in which we were aston-

ished by humanity's capacity for compassion and self-sacrifice. We have endured great loss. We have suffered great wrong.

May God bring peace to all who mourn. May people of Jewish faith and heritage in this country and around the world be inscribed and sealed for a good year in the book of life. And may we be blessed with the strength and patience to pursue justice and defeat evil.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.